Suggestions from ILO for Child Labour

5892. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether ILO has suggested any measures in 1995-96 against child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any financial assistance has been offered by ILO to implement reduc tion of child labour; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR .[SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Government of India's effort for elimination of child labour is being supplemented by ILO through their International Programme for Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and Child Labour Action and Support Programme (CLASP). While IPEC seeks to encourage, promote and support action oriented programmes for elimination of child labour by Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) and other institutions, CLASP aims at strengthening the country's capabilities to implement the National Child Labour Policy. Major activities proposed under the programmes for the year 1995, inter alia, include the implementation of action programmes for elimination of child labour, training of teachers, Labour Inspectors & NGOs, promote generation of awareness against child labour and evaluation of National Child Labour Projects. The work plan prepared by ILO in respect of these programmes for the year 1995 have been approved by the Steering Committee for implementation.

(c) and (d) the funds provided for India under IPEC for the biennium 1994-95 is US $ 1.4 million. The funds provided under the CLASP Project is US $.83 million.

Bonded Labourers

5893. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) how many bonded labourers have been identified during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) how many bonded labourers have been rehabilitated during the year 1993-94 and 1994-95 under the centrally sponsored scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Since inception of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, 2,51,424 bonded labourers have been identified and released upto 31.3.93, out of which about 6,000 bonded labourers are awaiting rehabilitation. During 1993-94, 2,497 bonded labourers were rehabilitated and during 1994-95, 1,473 bonded labourers were rehabilitated upto 28th February, 1995.

Implementation of IOL convention against child labour in the Country

5894. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India signed the International Labour Organisation Convention against child and forced labour in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these are still rampant in the country;

(c) Whether it is also a fact that the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued orders to Labour Inspectors restraining them from inspecting shops and establishmens employing child and forced labour; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Working and Living Conditions of the Unorganised Rural Labour in Madhya Pradesh

5895. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LAHOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the improvement of working and living conditions of the unorganised rural labour in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) There are no schemes approved by the Union Government specially for the State of Madhya Pradesh as such. However, some of the major schemes undertakan for the welfare of unorganised rural workers in the country as a whole including the State of Madhya Pradesh are as follows:

(i) Integtrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) Under this Scheme, financial assistance is provided for acquiring income generating assets, comprising of a varying mix subsidies and term credit at differential rates for small farmers, marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans with special provision for SOSTs and women. The number of families in Madhya Pradesh assisted under this scheme during 1994-95 is 1,55,405 (upto Feb., 95).

(ii) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) and Jawahar Rojgar Yojana (JRY):

These schems aim at generation of additional gainful employment and creation of productive community assets. The two schems (viz. NREP and RLEGP) were merged and renamed as Jawahar . Rojgar Yojna (JRY) in 1989 with significant increase in outlays. Employment generation under this scheme in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the year 1994-95 is 667.22 lakh mandays. This scheme has been intensified in 120 backward districts of the country where there is cocentration of unemployment and under employment.

(iii) Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM): The Scheme aims at skill upgradation of rural youth for self-employment.

(iv) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS):

On 2nd October, 1993, a new scheme known as 'Employment Assurance Scheme' has been launched in 1752 identified backward blocks throughout the country and seeks to provide assured wage employment of 100 days of unskilled manual work in lean agricultural season. The scheme will mainly benefit agricultural working. No targets are fixed under this scheme.

Besides, there is a scheme known as Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) which was launched in 1982-83 for bringing about economic and social upliftment of rural women belonging to families below the poverty line using a group approach for taking up income generating activities suited to their skills and aptitude. The Scheme operates in conjunction with TRYSEM and IRDP.

In addition to the above, the Central and the various State Governments have taken up several Insurance and Social Security Schemes like Group Insurance Scheme for Landless Agricultural Labourers in 1987 under the Social Security Fund of the LIC for providing insurance cover to all landless agricultural labourers in the age group of 18—60 years and the Insurnace Scheme * for IRDP beneficiaries in 1988. Besides, State Governments are running old age